

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Min-Yuan CHOU and Charng-Yih LEU)
Serial No. To be assigned) Group Art Unit: To be assigned
Filing Date: To be filed herewith) Examiner: To be assigned
For: NOVEL HUMAN α 1 CHAIN) Customer No.
COLLAGEN) *26694*
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
Atty. Docket No. 32350-176844)

November 30, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants request the entry of the following amendment prior to the calculation of claim fees and the examination of the above-identified application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 7 and 18 as follows:

7. (Amended) The human α 1 chain collagen protein as claimed in claim 6, wherein the protein is encoded by an isolated nucleic acid and the degenerate sequence thereof, said isolated nucleic acid and the degenerate sequence thereof comprise the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 5.